

Blanchard Power Systems

- Caterpillar Dealer for State of South Carolina
- In business since 1982
- Eight locations in the state
- Over 400 employees
- 1000+ installations in South Carolina



Reciprocating Engine-Driven Generator Sets

- Diesel and Gaseous Fueled
- 8kw to 15,710kw
- Standby, Prime and Continuous Duties
- \$300-\$400/kw Installed Cost
- \$.07 - \$.08/kw-hr to operate
- Relatively easy to install



Installation Considerations

- Generator Sizing/Use
- Location of Generators
- Foundations/Mounting
- Air Requirements
- Exhaust Requirements
- Fuel Systems/Storage
- Starting Systems
- Controls
- Generator End
- Enclosures
- Switchgear
- Maintenance



Generator Sizing/Use

- Co-ordination/Load Studies
- Sized for specific loads or entire building
- Certain types of loads cause over-sizing
 - UPS Systems
 - Large Motors
 - VFDs
- Use is largely dependent on Utility Contract



Location of Generators

- Indoor versus Outdoor Installation
- Noise considerations
- Required room for maintenance
- Platforms for large units
- Prevailing winds for exhaust
- Permitting issues



Foundations/Mounting

- Surface must be firm and level – soil, gravel, rock, etc.
- With Concrete:
 - Must support static and dynamic loads
 - Leave 12 inch maintenance area on all sides
 - Estimated foundation depth formula

$$FD = \frac{W}{D \times B \times L}$$

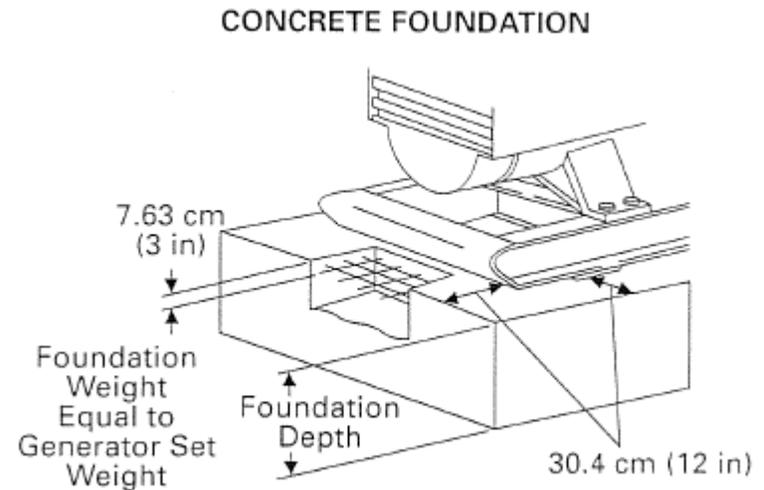
FD = foundation depth in meters (feet)

W = total weight of generator set in kilograms (pounds)

D = density of concrete in kg/m³ (lb/ft³)
(2402.8 kg/m³, 150 lb/ft³)

B = foundation width in meters (feet)

L = foundation length in meters (feet)



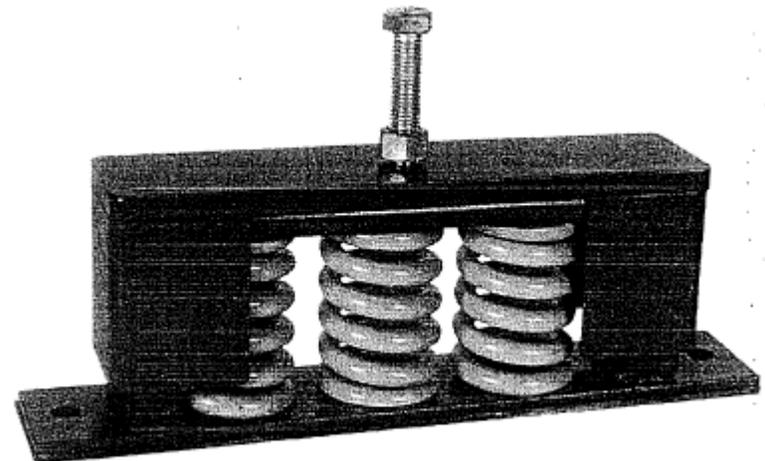
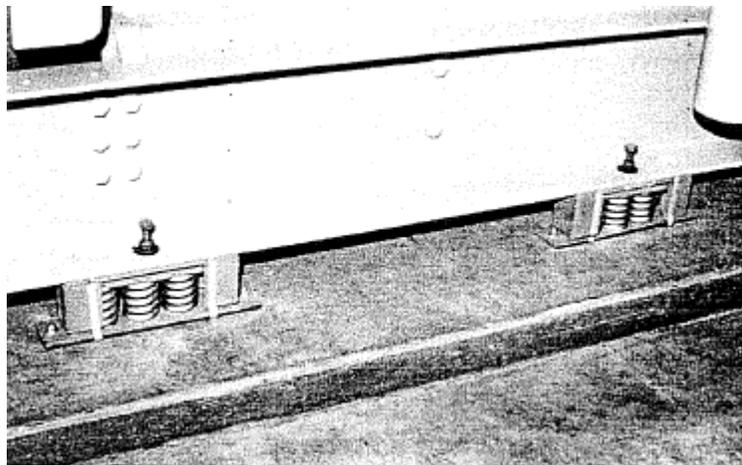
Structural Steel Bases

- Maintains alignment between engine and generator
- Aids in installation and relocation
- Isolates set from a flexing foundation
- May contain fuel tank for diesel generator sets



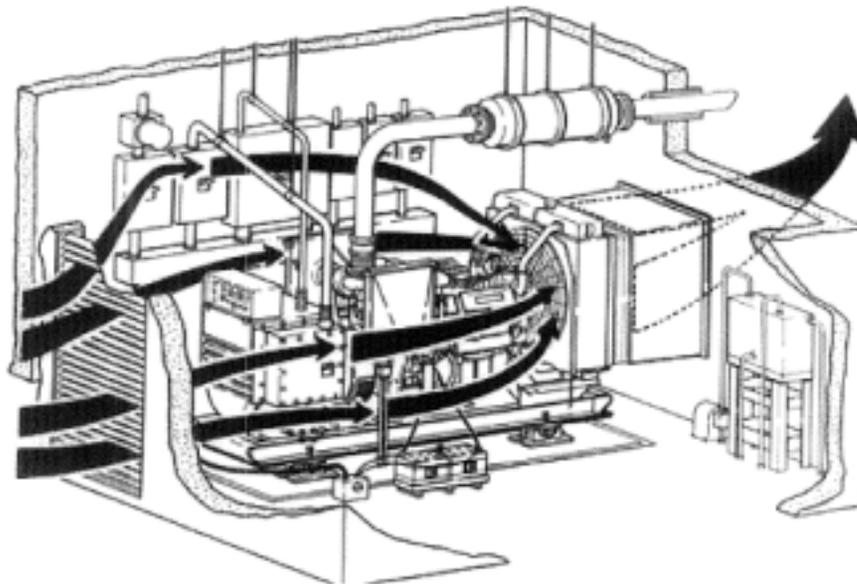
Vibration Isolators

- Proper isolation reduces noise and vibration damage
- Rubber type typically adequate – 90% effective
- Spring type are best – 96% effective



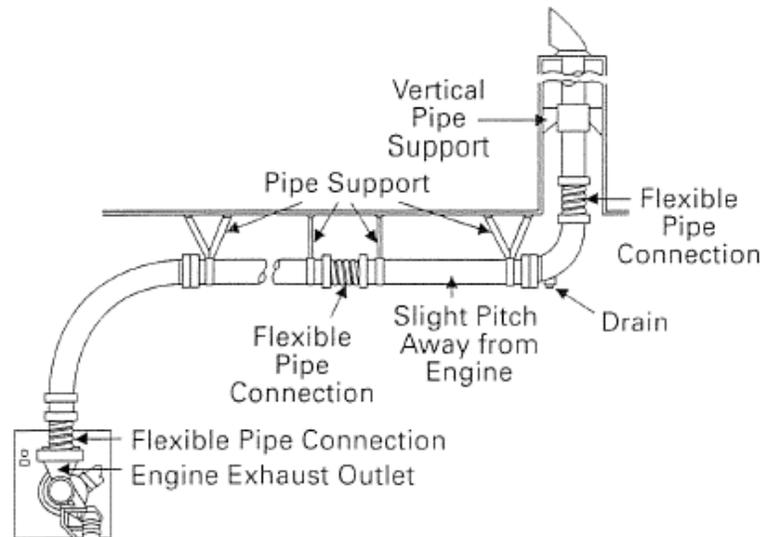
Air Requirements

- Cool, dry, clean air required for combustion and cooling
- Air should flow from generator to engine to radiator
- Air inlet should be 50% larger than air outlet
- New EPA requirements are forcing more air usage



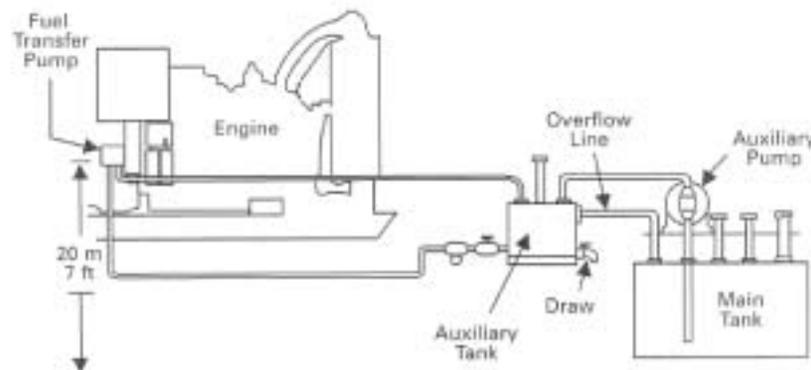
Exhaust Requirements

- Exhaust piping must be isolated from engine for:
 - Weight, vibration/movement, and heat expansion
- Length and turns in piping causes back pressure
- Rain caps or screen to keep birds out
- EPA requirements may force use of catalytic converters



Fuel Systems/Storage

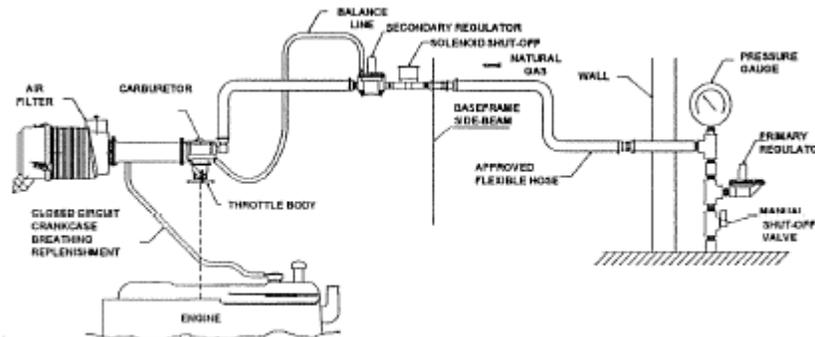
- Diesel
 - Bulk fuel stored in large tank
 - Typically transferred to small day tank
 - Diesel fuel will react with many materials
 - No galvanized, aluminum, or zinc in piping/tanks
 - Tanks require maintenance
 - Fuel must be filtered and often cooled



Fuel Systems/Storage

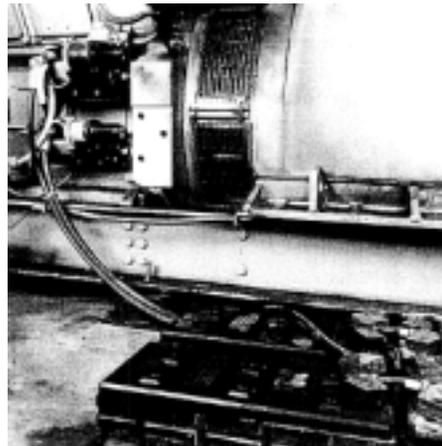
- Gaseous

- Gaseous fueled engines require spark plugs
- Horsepower depends on quality of gas
- Natural gas, propane vapor, landfill gas
- Gas pressures from .75psi for <100kw
- Gas pressures from 3-5psi for >100kw
- Gas company may provide primary regulator
- Engine has shutoff valve and secondary regulator



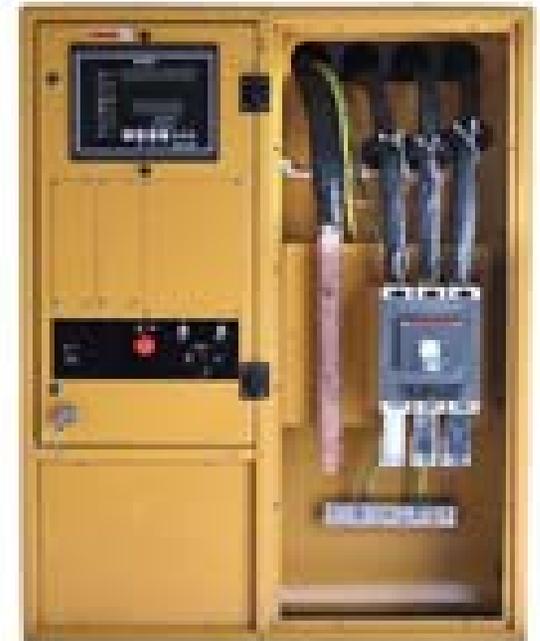
Starting Systems

- Electric starting is most common
- Batteries provide energy to starter
 - Lead-acid versus Nickel-cadmium
- Batteries placed near starting motor
- Batteries require maintenance
- Battery chargers versus charging alternators
- Jacket water heaters insure quick starts
- Air starting



Controls

- Control panel provides auto start/stop capabilities
- Programmable safety shutdowns
- Readouts for many critical data points
- Warning lights for protection
- Diagnostic capabilities
- Limits the starting cycles
- Provides for a cool-down cycle



Controls

- Governor controls engine speed
- Isochronous versus droop systems
- Electronic versus mechanical
- Electronic isochronous allows load sharing:
 - Governor's reaction time is very fast
 - Can compare real-time position to other unit
- Electronic systems can limit fuel at startup
- Stable operation (plus/minus .25% frequency)

Generator End

- Single bearing versus two bearing
- Permanent magnet excitation
- Internal anti-condensation heaters
- Generator-mounted circuit breaker boxes
- Stator and bearing temperature detectors
- RFI filters



Enclosures

- Provide protection from weather
- Reduce sound level depending on design
- Much cheaper than erecting a building
- Self-contained with power distribution for accessories



Switchgear/Transfer Switches

- Switchgear provides controls for single/multiple sets
- Automatic paralleling to Utility or other generators
- Provides protective relaying and circuit breakers
- Transfer switches provide connection of load to either generator or utility
 - Automatic vrs manual
 - Open vrs Closed transition



Maintenance

- Batteries
- Oil drain
- Oil filters
- Fuel filters
- Coolant
- Air cleaners



Questions?